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MISCELLANEOUS.

—627—

General Summary.

Our difficulties are nearly as great as those of our Contemporaries, though they are apparently of a different kind, as our chief embarrassment arises from the superabundance of materials, and the difficulty of determining which to use first. But we confess ourselves quite inadequate to the task of stating those embarrassments in the *original* and *oracular* style] of Dr. KITCHENER or his admirer of the Clive Street Press, so that we must abandon all attempt at imitation, and rest our apology on the frank admission of our conscious inferiority.

In the Asiatic Sheet will be found a few only of the many Letters that were found in our Lion's Mouth on the subject of the late Astronomical Report; and if the specimen of accuracy there adverted to be the best that can be furnished from our City of Palaces, it will be requisite that before the proposed Observatory be built, an Astronomer should be found capable of presiding over its duties.

In the same sheet will be found some Translations from the Native Newspapers, which deserve attention; and as the contents of these Papers promise to become every day more and more interesting, one of the purposes to which our proposed Extra Sheet will be applied, will be that of including such portions as may seem to us worthy of translating and transplanting. We have taken some articles from JOHN BULL also, as we gather from every available source, and shall soon be able to do so without that hindrance to our own peculiar and exclusive Correspondence which has hitherto been an unavoidable consequence of this desire to let our Readers see all that could be gleaned from others in-addition to that which we could offer them as our own.

The European Sheet contains among other articles, a short account of the School of Arts in Edinburgh, an Institution highly worthy of being copied by the East Indian Community here, and to which we would therefore direct their particular attention. The remainder of our space is given to a variety of short but useful and interesting paragraphs, on Politics, Science, and General Literature, from the sources acknowledged.

General La Fayette and the United States.—Extract of a letter from a Lady in Paris, dated September 24; 1821:—We (General La Fayette and the writer) held an earnest *éte-à-éte* until after midnight. The main subject of our discourse was America, although we wandered into many episodes and digressions. The enthusiasm and heartfelt affection with which he spoke of our *Utopia*, the high admiration he expressed for the character of its people, the ardent love of liberty, which breathed through all his discourse, found, I need not say, an answering note of sympathy in me. He told me he had been peculiarly interested by the allusions in my work to the history of the American Revolution; ‘You made me live those days over again.’ In speaking of the Revolutionary army, he observed, ‘No historian could render justice to the virtues of that army; no words could paint their sufferings; still less could they paint their fortitude, their disinterested and sublime patriotism.’ He observed also upon the simple manners, warm hospitality, and pure morals of the American nation. ‘You have only rendered justice to them,’ he added; smiling; ‘truly they are the best and happiest people in the world.’ I need scarcely say that we spoke of Mr. Bentham often, and that General La Fayette expressed the highest respect and admiration for the philosopher and philanthropist, to whom, as he observed, the whole human race owes a debt of gratitude.”

German Capital.—As some proof of the kind of loyalty his Majesty meets with in his German Capital, private letters state that when he attends the Theatre, tickets are issued to those who are permitted to be present, and none are allowed to enter into box, pit or gallery, but those to whom this privilege is extended.

Paris, Oct. 25.—You may observe sometimes blanks in the columns of the Ultra papers, and because similar blanks do not appear in the CONSTITUTIONNEL and the COURIER, some persons imagine that these journals are spared by the Censors. Precisely the reverse is the case, but were these papers to shew a single line of blank, they would run the risk of being treated with an increase of rigour. The proprietors of the JOURNAL DE PARIS, perceiving that it was necessary to accommodate themselves to the reigning opinion, have allowed their editors to assume some appearance of independence. These gentlemen make great efforts to shew their independence, but as yet attract no notice. As Lafontaine says,

“Un menteur n'est point écouté
“Même en disant la vérité.”

It is said that the GAZETTE DE FRANCE takes the place of the JOURNAL DE PARIS, in the share which the latter journal had of ministerial favour.

Remains of Art in a Limestone Formation.—The following geological fact is stated by Professor Silliman, as translated from Count Bourdon’s Mineralogy:

During the years 1786, 7, and 8, they were occupied near Aix, in Provence, in France, in quarrying stone for the rebuilding, upon a vast scale, of the Palace of Justice. The stone was a deep grey limestone, and of that kind which are tender when they come out of the quarry, but harden by exposure to the air. The strata were separated from one another by a bed of sand, mixed with clay, more or less calcareous. The first which were wrought presented no appearances of any foreign bodies, but after the workmen had removed the first ten beds, they were astonished when, taking away the eleventh, to find its inferior surface, at the depth of forty or fifty feet, covered with shells. The stone of this bed having been removed, as they were taking away the sand which separated the eleventh bed from the twelfth, they found stumps of columns and fragments of stones half wrought, and the stone was exactly similar to that of the quarry. They found moreover coins, handles of hammers, and other tools, or fragments of tools, of wood. But that which principally commanded their attention was a board, about an inch thick, and seven or eight feet long; it was broken into many pieces, of which none were missing, and it was possible to join them again one to another, and to restore its original form, which was that of the boards of the same kind used by the masons and quarrymen; it was worn in the same manner, rounded, and waving on their edges. The stones, which were completely or partly wrought, had not at all changed in their nature, but the fragments of the board and the instruments, and the pieces of instruments of wood, had been changed into agates, which were very fine, and agreeably coloured. Here then (observes Count Bourdon) we have the traces of a work executed by the hand of man, placed at the depth of fifty feet, and covered with eleven beds of compact limestone; every thing tended to prove that this work had been executed upon the spot where the trades existed. The presence of man had then preceded the formation of this stone, and that very considerably, since he was already at such a degree of civilization that the arts were known to him, and that he wrought the stone, and formed columns out of it.

Civic Rattery.—A city friend calls our attention to an instance of Civic rattery, and assures us, that in the Corporation of London there are to be found as striking and perfect instances of versatility as there are among its more fashionable and courtierlike professors. The late, or, in the fashionable phrase, the ex-Sheriff Williams has (he tells us) had his ambition gratified, by being appointed a Middlesex Magistrate. Lord Sidmouth, who honoured him with his company to dinner, at Kentish-town, has thus endeavoured to compensate for his disappointment in his endeavours to obtain an Alderman's gown. This is a strange world—what amiable compliances are thus exhibited on the part of his Lordship and the worthy ex-Sheriff: On the 14th of June, 1820, the ex-Sheriff, in rather a vehement speech, seconded a motion of Mr. Favel's, in the Common Council, for an Address of Congratulations to the late Queen, upon her arrival in this country; in which speech, as reported in a morning paper, he made the following observations:—"The address was opposed also upon the ground that it would give rise to indecent discussion; but those who made the discussion necessary, let them take the consequences—the blood be upon them. It might be said that this address might be considered as a reproach to Ministers. For his part, he was free to confess, that he did not wish to pass by the opportunity without expressing his conviction, that their conduct, with regard to her Majesty, added greatly to the opinion of meanness which he always entertained for them." Again—"He was bound to remember, that she experienced displeasure in a quarter where she should have met with kindness." How does this accord with the ex-Sheriff's late speech, at Goldsmith's-hall, where he declared his "reverence for the higher powers, and that he felt it no reproach to receive the approbation of his Majesty's Ministers?" But to proceed with his former speech—"Was not the profession of the Law degraded in the person of an individual who had set out from this country to look for evidence against her Majesty?—(loud cheering.) Had not Ministers insulted her—had not ambassadors and petty consuls abroad taken means to injure her—had she not been impeded in her journeys by their contrivance? Nay, even kings and princes, paupers upon the crown of England, had treated her with slights."—"Thank God, no green-bag business would do now. The Ministers would find very few to sanction the most despicable proposal which was made to her Majesty—the refusal of a yacht to convey her Majesty to this country—the reluctance with which they announced the name of the Queen, when at last they were driven to it—and that paltry, unchristian business of having the prayers of the church sullied by the omission of her name in the Liturgy!" We might proceed, but enough. The worthy gentleman has made his peace with Ministers, and, however they have displayed their rancour against Sir Robert Wilson and others, for espousing the cause of her late Majesty, they have, in the person of the ex-Sheriff, shown how ready they are to forget and forgive, when they meet with a becoming spirit of subserviency, and a due submission.—*Traveller.*

Arran Estate.—The Duke of Hamilton and Brandon has granted to the tenants of his Grace's Arran estate abatements out of their rents of crop 1820, to the amount of 3,000l.

Royal Artillery.—A detachment of the Royal Artillery, among which Major Munro's company is named, is under orders to embark for the Mauritius.

Admiral of England.—It is reported in the naval circles that Sir James Saumarez, the present Rear-Admiral of England, will succeed the late Sir William Young as Vice-Admiral. Several officers have been mentioned as likely to succeed Sir James Saumarez, but no one is definitively named for the high appointment.

Hannah.—A very severe gale was experienced at the Hannah on the 14th of September, in which, among other damage, a French ship, with a valuable cargo, and 80,000 dollars in gold was lost.

Extraordinary Documents.—Some very extraordinary documents respecting the latter days of King Charles II., have, it is said, been lately found among the records in the Heralds' College.

—*Times, November 2,*

New Tragedies.—The arrival of three new tragedies in England from Lord Byron is announced. The hero of one of these pieces is said to be Foscari, son of the Doge of that name, who was unjustly banished by the Venetian Senate, after having been cruelly tortured, for a crime of which he appears to have been entirely innocent. Rogers, in his *Pleasures of Memory*, thus alludes to the catastrophe, though in a feeble and indistinct manner:—

"Hence home-felt pleasure prompts the patriot's sigh,
This makes him wish to live, and dare to die;
For this young Foscari, whose hapless fate
Venice should blush to hear the Muse relate;
When exile wore his blooming years away,
To sorrow's long soliloquies a prey;
When reason, justice, vainly urg'd his cause,
For this he rous'd her sanguinary laws,
Glad to return, tho' hope could grant no more,
But chains and torture haled him to the shore."

The second tragedy is entitled *Gain*:

Robert Burns.—In THE TIMES of Monday we noticed the presentation of a pair of silver candlesticks, &c., to the relief of Robert Burns, the poet. The following letter, from Mrs. Burns, addressed to the Society, has since been received in Sheffield, and handed to us by Mr. Brown, the gentleman deputed to present the gift:—

To the Members of the Burns' Society, Sheffield.

GENTLEMEN,

With the most lively feelings of gratitude, I offer you my best thanks for the very handsome present I have received by the hands of Mr. Brown—a present which combines so much elegance with usefulness, and, which I can show to my friends with pride and pleasure.

I shall carefully preserve this interesting gift while I live; and when in the course of nature it passes into the possession of my children, I need not say that it will be equally prized.

The value of this elegant gift is much enhanced by the tribute paid to the memory of my husband, from the pen of a poet not less celebrated for his talent than for his philanthropy.

I must at the same time acknowledge my thanks to Mr. Brown, for the handsome manner in which he presented this flattering mark of your attention.

That the Society, to whom I am so much indebted, may long be united by all that warmth of feeling and love of country which so eminently distinguish Scotsmen, is the sincere wish of

Gentlemen, your gratefully obliged

Dumfries, Oct. 25.

JEAN BURNS.

Naval History of Great Britain.—We see by an advertisement in this day's papers, that the first part of Mr. James's "Naval History of Great Britain" will appear very shortly. Such a work is a real *desideratum* in English literature. There is indeed a work by Capt. Schomberg called "Naval Chronology," but it is so ill-arranged and so inaccurate, as well as defective, as to be of no value as an historical record. The industry and care, as well as talent, which have distinguished the former works of Mr. James, hold out a very reasonable promise that his present work will be no less useful to the profession as a book of authoritative reference, than it will be interesting to the nation as a monument of its maritime glory.

Marrying by a Ring.—The practice of marrying by a ring for the female was adopted from the Romans: the bride was modestly veiled, and after receiving the nuptial benediction, was crowned with flowers. During the year of our Commonwealth, when the Established Church lost its authority and sanctity, it was customary for the banns of marriage to be proclaimed on three market days in Newgate market, and afterwards the parties were married at the church, and the Register states that they were married at the place of meeting called the church.—(See the Register of St. Andrew, Holborn, during those years.)

Paddings of Lace.—When the ELIZABETH packet was lately almost wrecked in Dover harbour, two ladies were so completely drenched, that their clothing afforded scarcely any concealment to the various paddings of lace, shawls, and other things which they had provided themselves in France. They were, of course, invited to the Custom-house, and there dismantled of the incumbrances that spoiled the *contour* of their figures.

Suits at Law.—The following advertisement is literally copied from a New Jersey Paper:—

"To be sold, on the 8th of July, one hundred and thirty-one *suits at law*, the property of an eminent Attorney, about to retire from business. Note—the clients are rich and obstinate."

Lord Essex.—A trait of great magnanimity is recorded of this nobleman. The hatred between him and Sir Walter Raleigh is well known. When Sir Walter had landed at Fayal, in the island of Madeira, in direct opposition to the precise commands of Lord Essex, who commanded in that expedition, his Lordship being pressed by some of the officers to bring him to a Court-martial, nobly replied, "I would do it immediately if he were not mine enemy."

Reducing Establishments.—A Gentleman and his wife were reduced from a life of splendour and luxury (by the unavoidable losses of the former in trade) to a more moderate, and, as it proved, a more happy way of living. He had been for many years either extremely captious and unkind, or morose and gloomy, and it was a lively reply of his affectionate partner that caused a change in his temper and behaviour, more than a counterbalance, in her eyes, for their pecuniary misfortune. "Wife," said he, one morning, "my affairs are embarrassed, and it is absolutely necessary that I should curtail my establishment. I should like to have your opinion as to the reduction." He spoke this in a more gentle tone than usual; and the amiable woman, taking advantage, of what appeared a favourable opportunity, approached him with an engaging smile, and tenderly squeezing his hand, said, "My dear husband, I shall be perfectly happy if you will get rid of the *sulky*, and let us retain the *sociable*."

Lord Byron.—A new Tragedy, from the pen of Lord Byron, is in the press. His Lordship has left Ravenna, crossed the Appenines, and gone to reside at Pisa.

Jews.—The Jews, says a letter from Frankfort, begin again to express themselves with much displeasure at the refusal of several Governments, and particularly of the free cities, to grant them full and entire enjoyment of civic rights. One of the richest of them said lately; "If, at the Congress of Vienna, we had foreseen this backwardness on the part of the free cities, we could have easily, by the aid of a few millions, prevent their establishment."

French Papers.—The French papers being at present, like our own, barren of political intelligence of interest, dedicate a considerable portion of their columns to criticism and literary discussion. One of them has inserted an article entitled "Reflections," some of which are not without their point. The following are specimens:—

"A people ought to follow their King; a King his age."

"In government, honorable men become useful, able men necessary, and ambitious men indispensable."

"It is consoling, at least, for our descendants, to reflect that the grand children of those who now object to our institutions as new, will be obliged, if they are consistent, to defend them a hundred years hence as ancient."

"A usurper must conquer, a restoration convince."

"Under a despotism, instruction is a privilege; in mixed governments, a right; in republics, a duty."

"I am pleased to think that Franklin, who was the inventor of the lightning conductor, was likewise one of the founders of American liberty. His genius thus deprived of their terrors the storms of the Heavens and the earth; for liberty is the true safety conductor of constitutional thrones and states."

Marchioness of Londonderry.—The Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry, it is expected, will quit Mount Stewart, Newton Ards, near Dublin, for the express purpose of passing the rest of her days in this country (England.)

Elwes.—Mr. George Elwes, who died the other day on the Terrace of High-street, Marylebone, is said to have left property to the amount of a million sterling.

Anecdote of Bacon, the Sculptor.—One day as this justly celebrated artist was walking in Westminster Abbey, he observed a person standing before his principal work, who seemed to pride himself on his taste and skill in the art, and who was exuberant in his remarks. "This monument of Chatham," said he to Mr. Bacon, (whom it is evident he mistook for an ignorant stranger), "is admirable upon the whole, but it has great defects." "I should be greatly obliged," said Bacon, "if you would have the kindness to point them out to me." "Why, here," said the critic, "and there—do you not see? bad, very bad;" at the same time employing his stick upon the lower figures with a violence that was like to injure the work. "But," said Mr. Bacon, "I should be glad to be acquainted why the parts you touched are faulty?" He found, however, nothing determinate in his reply, but the same vague assertions repeated, and accompanied with the same violence. "I told Bacon," said he, "repeatedly of this, while the monument was forming. I pointed out other defects, but I could not convince him." "What, then, you are personally acquainted with Bacon?" said Mr. B. "O yes," replied the stranger, "I have been intimate with him for many years." "It is well for you, then," said Mr. B. taking leave of him, "that your friend Bacon is not now at your elbow, for he would not have been well pleased at seeing his work so roughly handled."

Disciplined Soldier.—A laughable circumstance took place lately, near the market-place in this town. As a soldier was carrying the dinners belonging to his mess from the baker's, one of his companions coming behind him, called out "Attention!" when this well disciplined soldier dropped his hands and at the same time the dinners of his unfortunate comrades—*Shrewsbury Chronicle*.

King's Visit to Ireland.—The wife of a *finisher* of the law, having been lately asked for the amount of a small bill, replied, that in consequence of the King's Visit to Dublin, and the extension of his Royal clemency to certain persons under sentence of death, her dear and tender spouse had been "diddled" out of six guineas, which he must otherwise have received at his just and lawful fees—that is to say, the lives of three men were spared by the King, and poor *Mrs. Ketch* found herself *minus* so many guineas!—*Dublin Journal*.

Sale Bill.—The following is the literal copy of a sale bill given into the hand of the bellman of this town, last week but one:—"Goods to be Sold by Ticket at Joseph Dawes Brunch Stret No 14 Ny the Brick kilns In holey Banks Consisting of Tables Shares feder Beds and Bedeing Camp Bed Stedes Magoney Droles Mag Card Table 2 Magoney Snap tables one boake Dreser 6 wonet Shares with mo hare Botms and quantee, of kittchen unster two tedys to menchen."—*Blackburn Mail*.

Orthography.—A farrier in the country lately made out a bill to a farmer who had employed him, and whose Christian name was Jacob, which he contrived to spell without using one single letter contained in the word Jacob. It would puzzle some people, perhaps more learned than the farrier, to endeavour to put five letters together none of which are in the word Jacob, and make it sound so well as *Gekup*, which was the way the *doctor* (as such persons are called sometimes in the country) spelt it.

New Mineral Substance.—Mr. J. Deuchar found, a few weeks ago, a new mineral substance imbedded in limestone. It melts at a candle, and burns on a wick, or on paper. In the cold it is insoluble in alcohol, potash, or oil of turpentine, nor is it acted upon in the cold after five days' exposure to sulphuric, muriatic, or nitric acids.—*Annals of Philosophy*, ii. p. 230.

Effects of Copper on Vegetation.—Some time since (says Mr. Phillips) I accidentally spilt some solution and oxide of copper near the root of a young poplar tree, in a short time the tree began to droop; the leaves on the lower branches dying first, and eventually those on the upper ones. On cutting a branch from the tree, I observed that the knife was covered with copper to the whole breadth of the branch, shewing that the copper had been absorbed, and had undoubtedly proved fatal to the life of the tree.—*Ann. Phil.* ii. p. 77.

Phosphorescence of Wounds.—It is known that light is emitted from organized bodies, when putrefaction takes place under certain circumstances: the same phenomenon sometimes occurs in wounds, and doubtless a greater number of instances would be recorded, were they often dressed in the dark. Baron Percy who, during twenty-five years of war, has had under his care more than a million wounded, has often been deprived of the advantage of light. It was thus that he observed in a young soldier the phosphorescence of a slight wound in the leg, for more than fifteen days. In this case it might perhaps be attributed to the man's having applied compresses dipped in urine to the wound: but sometime afterwards at the siege of Manheim a vivid light, a true *ignis fatuus* existed, for more than six days, over the wound of an officer, who had been dressed with compresses wotted with pure water only. Baron Percy has since had frequent opportunities of observing similar facts.

On the Phosphorescence of luminous Insects.—This subject is treated by M. Macair in a Memoir published in the *Bibl. Univers.* 1821. The insects on which his experiments were principally made, were the *Lampyridae noctiluca* and *splendidula*, known by the common name of glow-worms. The following are some of the general and striking results.

Solar light appears to have a constant influence on these animals. Some were put into boxes, from which the light was sent out, and when the boxes were opened in the evening, they rarely gave any light; but the same worms, in the same boxes with glass tops, and placed in the sunshine, shone brilliantly in the ensuing evening.

Heat caused these animals to become luminous, and they remained so as long as the heat was continued; it began at 22° R. was brightest at 33° R., the insect then soon died, but the light continued; at 46° it ceased. When the animals were thrown into water of 35° or 40°, they died instantly, but the light continued brilliant: at 10° higher all light was extinguished, and could not be restored. Cold, on the contrary, destroys the luminousness of the insect.

When the luminous part of the animal is cut off, the light diminishes, and in four or five minutes is gone. In a few minutes the rings move and the light reappears, but more weakly, and then fades away. This continues two or three days, but the light is faint; if the part be warmed, then the light is brilliant, and by renewing it may be restored for two or three days together as often as is desired.

When the abdomen of a worm is opened, the luminous matter is found within, formed by a particular organization. It appears as a yellowish white matter on the last three rings semi-transparent, which in the microscope appears organized, and consisting of grains confined in a ramifying fibrile structure, shining brightly in the dark. The interior surface of the ring is very transparent, but not phosphorescent. The substance is translucent, becomes opaque by drying, and then ceases to shine. It is heavier than water. Preserved openly in water it shines with a yellowish-green light for two or three hours, and then ceases shining. Heat and galvanism reproduce the light as long as the substance is not quite opaque. Up to 33° R. the light increases; at 42° it ceases, and the substance is then white and opaque like albumen. In a vacuum it ceases to shine, but reshines with air. It shines more in oxygen than in other gases. When burned it gives ammonical results. Concentrated acids extinguish the light, and coagulate the substance. It is not soluble in oils. Ether and alcohol destroy the light, and coagulate the substance.

Potassa dissolves the substance. It is not soluble in boiling water, but becomes more consistent in it. From the chemical character M. Macair concludes the substance to be albumen, principally, and the cause of the cessation of light to be the coagulation of the albumen and its consequent opacity.

The general conclusions are—1. that a certain degree of heat is necessary to the voluntary light of glow-worms. 2. That a slightly increased heat increases the light, but much more heat destroys it. 3. That all bodies capable of coagulating albumen destroy the phosphorescence of this matter. 4. That the light does not appear except in gases containing oxygen. 5. That the pio excites it, but common electricity does not. 6. that the luminous matter is principally albumen.

Relation of a remarkable electrical Phenomenon.—The following relation is made by M. Allemand of Fleurin Neuchatel, to M. Pictet, and is published in the *Bibl. Univers.* June 1821. M. Allemand, on the 3d of May, about ten o'clock in the evening, was caught in a violent storm of wind and rain. The thunder becoming frequent and strong, he thought it proper to close an umbrella he had with him, and hold the upper metallic point in his hand, lest it should attract the lightning. The night, dark of itself, was made more so by the great rain. Suddenly he perceived a light from above, and looking upwards found the edge of his hat luminous. Supposing at the moment the hat was on fire, he, without reflection, passed his hand over the light to extinguish it. It however only shone more strongly, a circumstance which caused some confused ideas on the nature of the light. The hand being filled with water from the hat, on shaking it, M. Allemand saw that the interior of it shone as if it were a polished metal reflecting a strong light.

Being at this time near the farm of Chaux, about ten or twelve minutes' walk from Fleurin, and fifteen or twenty from Motiers, M. Allemand, considered for a moment what he had best do, and concluded on continuing his progress. Having once filled his hand with the electrified water with impunity, he ventured to repeat the experiment, and did it fifteen or twenty times, endeavouring to ascertain whether it had odour, or produced any decrepitation or sound; but nothing of this kind could be perceived, nothing but the bright light which seemed like a brilliant varnish on the hand. The light remained for an instant only. At a few hundred paces farther on, the light on the hat still continuing, M. Allemand was surprised by the appearance of another light less bright than the former, on the smooth surface of the umbrella-handle, at the place where generally a plate of metal is placed for the name, but which plate had been removed from this umbrella. At first the finger was passed over it to extinguish it, but the phenomena were just as before, and both the rubbing and rubbed surface shone brightly. Afraid of the metal about the umbrella, it was thrown down, and M. Allemand went on his way, rubbing his hat on the sleeve of his coat; but in this way only rendering the light brighter. The thunder was more frequent than before, but still at some little distance. The crown of light continued until M. Allemand arrived near Motiers, and he attributed its cessation to the high poplar trees in the neighbourhood of that place.

Stopping at Motiers only a short time, he took a guide with a lantern to find the umbrella. Having done so he sent back the man, and went on himself towards Fleurin.

As the tempest had diminished, he used the umbrella; and as soon as the light of the lantern was sufficiently removed, he again remarked luminous appearances. These occurred at each end of the whalebone ribs, on the metal point which terminates them; the light was not so bright as the electric star, but were brilliant points like a yellow red metal, highly polished, and would, M. Allmand remarks, have appeared very beautiful if he had been collected enough to admire them.

M. Allemand explains these effects by supposing the atmosphere surcharged with electricity, and that a portion of it was continually passing to the ground, through his hat, umbrella, and himself.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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Egyptian Antiquities.

We were highly gratified on Monday (Oct. 29), by a private inspection of Mr. Belzoni's interesting additions to that valuable collection of Egyptian antiquities, which has already been exhibited to the British public, and which now re-opens with augmented claims to admiration. The new specimens are chiefly models of ruined temples, discovered and explored by the untiring perseverance and talent of Mr. Belzoni, and not only tend to elucidate the state of the arts and sciences at the period when they were erected, and the genius of the people by whom such vast works were designed and accomplished; but there is every reason to hope that they may form links by which a chain will at length be completed to solve the mighty secret of their history. The first model is that of the portico of the Temple of the island of Philae. Mr. Belzoni represents this temple to have been a sanctuary to Christians during the persecutions of the Caliphs; and speaks of the Greek inscriptions, mentioning its having been consecrated to the worship of Christianity, at that epoch, by a Bishop Theodore. Several crosses are also to be seen in various parts of the ruin.

The second model represents the ruins of the Temple of Ermentis, situated two hours' journey south of Thebes, and is supposed by Mr. Belzoni to have formed a part of that proud city. He justly distinguishes it as being remarkable for the elegance of its construction and architecture, and for having amongst its hieroglyphics the cameleopard, which is only to be seen in one other place in Egypt—the Memnonium at Thebes.

The Great Temple of Ybsamboul is the subject of the next model. The opening of this excavation is another trial of the indefatigable industry of Mr. Belzoni. It is situated near the second cataract of the Nile in Nubia, and is the last and largest temple excavated in the solid rock in that country, or in Egypt, except the new tomb with which this traveller has now familiarised our ideas. The accounts of the latter discovery are highly interesting.

The models, No. 4 and 5, are representations of the pyramid of Cephrenes, with the passages, portcullis, and chambers re-opened by Mr. Belzoni.

The sixth and last model, is that of an entrance to an Egyptian tomb, covered with an arch, proving that arches with the key-stone must have been known by the Egyptians before their origin and use among the Greeks.—*Courier*, Oct. 31, 1821.

Admiral Otway.

The period of Rear-Admiral Otway's command on the coast of Scotland being on the eve of expiring, a splendid dinner was given to him on Tuesday (Oct. 30), at the New Club, in St. Andrew's-square, by the Nobleman and Gentlemen of Edinburgh and its vicinity, as a testimony of their respect for the public and private qualities of the Rear-Admiral, during the three years he has held his present high official situation.

After the cloth was removed, the health of his Majesty was drank with all the honours; when the Chairman, the Right Hon. the Lord Provost, rose and proposed a bumper toast, which he felt assured would be received by the company with peculiar satisfaction; he meant the health and prosperity of his most excellent and gallant friend, Admiral Otway, who, during the three years of his command, had endeared himself to the whole of the company, not less in the transaction of his public duties, than in the exercise of his private and domestic virtues. His Lordship, as an old friend, and in the presence of the gallant Admiral, declined expatiating upon his public services. They were, his Lordship observed, upon record, and duly appreciated in the proper quarter; but he must add, that if the voice of the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the city of Edinburgh could prolong the gallant Admiral's command, that it would be most willingly exerted on the present occasion, as he was sure his gallant friend would remember, in his future career in the service, that he would carry with him the affection and esteem of his old friends in Edinburgh, who would also long recollect, and at all times join with him in drinking health and prosperity to Admiral Otway. This toast was received with the greatest enthusiasm.

The gallant Admiral, nearly deprived of utterance, replied in the following terms:

"My Lord Provost and Gentlemen,—I feel completely overwhelmed at what I have just heard of myself, and with the great honour and mark of distinction which has this day been conferred on me; and as I find it impossible to express half what I feel on the occasion, allow me the indulgence of telling you a short story, which is in some degree applicable to my situation at this moment. Gentlemen, at the island of Barbadoes I once witnessed a sailor buying a parrot from a black girl. The sailor asked the girl if the parrot could speak, when she quickly answered, 'No, massa, the parrot no speak, but he tink a great deal!' Now gentlemen, that is precisely my

situation at this moment. I cannot speak, but I must ever think of your kindness; and were I to live to the age parrots do in general, I should never cease to think of the great honor done me this day. I now beg leave to offer you my warmest thanks, and to drink your health in a bumper."

This speech was loudly cheered; and after the health of the Duke of York, the Royal Family, the Army and Navy, and the Peerage of Scotland had been drank,

The Lord Provost again proposed the health of Admiral Otway, not as an Admiral, nor for his private nor public qualities, well known and estimable as they were, but he would propose his health as the youngest freeman of the city of Edinburgh. To which the Admiral returned his thanks in a neat speech.

After the healths of the Lord Provost, the Lord President, Lord Chief Baron Adam, Lord Duncan, Lord Gillies, Admiral Sir David Milne, Sir P. C. Durham, Captain Charles Adam, the croupier, Sir Thomas Troubridge, and others, it was particularly gratifying to see so many distinguished members of the naval service, after joining in drinking the health of Mr. John Clerk, bear testimony, which they did, to Rear-Admiral Sir David Milne's handsome encomium on the merits of his celebrated relation, the Author of the Naval Tactics, whose memory was drank in solemn silence.

Amongst the company, which broke up at a late hour, were the Lord Provost, Lord Duncan, Lord Keith, Lord Torphichen, Lord Bellhaven, Lord Gillies, Mr. Clerk, the Hon. A. Macdonald, the Hon. General Duff, Rear-Admiral Sir P. C. Durham, Admiral Sir David Milne, K. C. B., Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Munro, Mr. Forbes Blair, Captain Hay, R. N., Mr. Dewar of Vogrie, the Hon. Admiral Elphinstone, Commissioner Earl, Captain Adam (croupier), Mr. L. Meason, Mr. G. RusSELL, Mr. G. Bell, Colonel Ross, General Sir J. Hope, Mr. Campbell, General Maxwell, Mr. Wm. Clerk, Mr. Shannon, Mr. Horrocks, Captain P. Campbell, R. N., Commissioner Fortheringham, Mr. Campbell, of Combie, Captain Bingham, Lieutenant Beckford, Mr. Paine.

We noticed in our Paper of Friday last, that the freedom of the city had been voted to Admiral Otway. We have been favoured with a copy of the following correspondence which passed between him and the Lord Provost on the subject:—

To Rear-Admiral Otway, Commander-in-Chief, &c.

MY DEAR ADMIRAL,—I have great pleasure in communicating to you, that, by the unanimous vote of the Magistrates and Town Council, the freedom of the city of Edinburgh was this day conferred upon you, "in testimony of the sense which they entertain of the distinguished services which you have rendered to your King and country in various parts of the world, in the course of the last war; and on account also of the able and meritorious manner in which you have discharged the duties of your important situation during the time you have commanded his Majesty's squadron on the coast of Scotland."

You will not doubt believe that it must be peculiarly gratifying to me to be the channel of making this communication to a friend with whom I had the pleasure of becoming first acquainted many years ago, under circumstances which laid the foundation of that friendship which has ever since subsisted between us: but I cannot, at the same time, help saying, that I feel great regret from the reflection, that we are so soon to be deprived of your public services, and private society; and I can truly assure you that the same feeling prevails among your numerous circle of friends in this city, all of whom lament that your departure from among us is so near at hand.

Permit me as an individual to add my sincere wishes, that wherever your future destination may be, you may long continue to enjoy health and happiness, and I beg you will be assured of the truth and regard with which I shall have the honour to remain, my dear Admiral, your sincere and faithful friend, &c.

Charlotte Square, } WILLIAM ARBUTHNOT,
Edinburgh, Oct. 24, 1821. } Lord Provost.
To the Right Honorable the Lord Provost, &c.

MY DEAR LORD,—I have just had the honour of your Lordship's letter, conveying to me the freedom of the ancient city of Edinburgh, as unanimously voted by the Magistrates and Town Council.

I feel perfectly unequal to express my sensibility of this flattering and honourable distinction just conferred on me, and which I fully appreciate. I need not say to your Lordship how gratifying this testimony is, by being communicated by so old and esteemed a friend. I consider the three years I have had the honour of commanding his Majesty's squadron on the coast of Scotland, as the most agreeable period of my service; and I shall ever reflect, with gratitude and pleasure, on the time I have passed in the society of my fellow-citizens in Edinburgh.

I have the honour to be, &c.
His Majesty's Ship Dover, } R. W. OTWAY, Rear-Admiral,
Leith Roads, Oct. 25, 1821. } Commander-in-Chief.

Calcutta Journal.—Vol. II.—No. 102.

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Law Report.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, WESTMINSTER, NOV. 1, 1821.
COLVIN AND OTHERS V. NEWBERRY AND OTHERS.

This was action upon the case. The cause was tried before the Lord Chief Justice in London, in the sittings after Hilary term, 1820, and the plaintiffs were nonsuited upon the ground that the parties named as defendants were not the parties liable. A motion was afterwards made for a new trial in Easter term of the present year, and the facts were then put into a case for the opinion of the Court.

The present defendants, it appeared, were in the year 1817 joint owners with Mr. Thomas Starling Benson (since dead) of a vessel called the BENSON. On account of this vessel they entered into a contract with a gentleman named Beecham, the effect of which contract was generally as follows:—The BENSON was to be employed upon a voyage from the port of London to Calcutta and home; she was to have liberty to touch at Madras and at Madeira; she was to be guaranteed in employ for twelve months or so much longer as the voyage and delivery might last; and the owners were to receive from Mr. Beecham 25s. per ton per month for her registered tonnage, he (Beecham) being to make such use of her as to freight, cargo, &c. as should to him seem good. The question which eventually arose was, whether this contract between Mr. Beecham and the owners of the BENSON was a charter-party or not. In addition to the matters already stated, the agreement provided that the owners should be liable for stores, repairs, &c. for the use of the vessel; that Mr. Beecham should be captain; but that the owners should put on board an agent of their own named Oveat, who should superintend the necessary purchases and issues (on the ship's account); the drawing of bills; and all other matters in which Messrs. Benson, Newberry, and Company should be concerned. A further condition of the instrument related to the payment (by Captain Beecham) of the agreed freight; 1,900l. of which was to be paid before the ship left her port, 2,000l. more (by bills) upon her arrival at Calcutta, and the remainder previous to the finishing of her delivery upon her return to England. The BENSON sailed from London in the spring of 1817, and arrived safely at the port of her destination. There she delivered her British venture, and took in goods for this country (East India produce) on freight for the present plaintiffs, Messrs. Colvin and Co. About the end of August in the same year, the BENSON sailed from Calcutta, but the same good fortune did not attend her homeward, as had waited upon her outward voyage. She was obliged, from unseaworthiness, to put into the Mauritius; and, being there surveyed, she was found to be infected with the dry rot. Here a difficulty arose as to the course to be taken. The surveyors, who found the dry rot in the BENSON, reported that she might, notwithstanding, be repaired, and become a stout and sufficient vessel. Captain Beecham wished that the ship should be condemned; and advertised for vessels to carry her cargo to England. Mr. Oveat resisted the removal of the property; and, upon an application to the Admiralty, stating that the BENSON was capable of being repaired, procured an order for the detention of the cargo. Eventually, part of the cargo was sent to England by other ships, and part was sold in the Mauritius; a loss accrued upon its disposal; and for compensation for that loss, the plaintiffs now brought their action. The point for the Court was, whether the defendants, Messrs. Benson and Co. had not, by their agreement with Captain Beecham, made him, *pro tempore*, the owner (as regarded all contracts with shippers) of the BENSON; and whether it was not against him that the action should have been brought.

Mr. PARK (for the plaintiffs) contended that the agreement between Captain Beecham and the defendants could no way be taken as amounting to a charter-party. The defendants surrendered no possession of the vessel, for they kept their own agent, Mr. Oveat, on board. The contract was merely an appointment of Mr. Beecham, upon certain terms of remuneration, to the command of the BENSON; and if ship owners could by such an instrument get rid of their liability, shippers in future would be placed in a dangerous and uncertain situation; for, instead of relying upon substantial proprietors, they would be dealing in fact with speculating captains.

The grounds, the learned counsel continued, upon which owners were held liable to shippers, were two:—first, because they appointed the captains; and next, because they received the freight. The present defendants stood in the situation of having exercised both those rights; but the exercise of both has always been deemed necessary; for in the case of Boucher v. Hardwicke had held one to be sufficient. In that case it was held, in the particular goods shipped, the captain of the vessel was liable to the freight, but the owner, having the appointment of that captain, was held by Lord Hardwicke to be—like a common carrier—liable for the act done by his servant. A case in Strange's reports—the case of "Parish v. Cranford"—went even farther than the case which had just been alluded to. In "Parish and Cranford," a charter-party had really been executed to the captain, making him, *pro hac vice*, owner of the vessel; but even there the real owner, the

owner in fee simple—if such expression might be allowed—having the nomination of the captain, and an interest in the freight, had been held liable to the shipper. He knew (Mr. Park concluded by saying), that the case of "Parish and Cranford" had been doubted, and in a very high quarter. He was not, however, driven to rely upon it; the agreement in the present case by no means amounted to a charter-party; it was a mere contract between the owners of the vessel and the captain; and by such a contract third persons could not be affected.

Mr. CAMPBELL, for the defendants, observed that the present action was, in fact, an action of *tort*, and could only have its foundation in a contract. Now what contract was there between the present defendants and Messrs. Colvin and Co., the plaintiffs? The contract had, in truth, been between the plaintiffs and Mr. Beecham. The defendants had neither contract with Messrs. Colvin, nor interest in the freight they paid; they (the defendants) received a monthly freight from Mr. Beecham; and whether the ship earned freight or not, was to them a matter of perfect indifference. The contract between the plaintiffs and Mr. Beecham; amounted to all intents and purposes to a charter-party; and although there were liabilities from which, as registered owner, they could not be exonerated—such, for instance, as repairs done to the ship herself, or damage done by her to other vessels; yet from all liability to shippers with whom Mr. Beecham, the *pro hac vice* owner, might engage, Messrs. Benson and Co. were most clearly exempt.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the case was a case of novelty, and of very considerable importance; it had better go down therefore to a new trial, where the facts might be accurately found in the shape of a special verdict, and where a bill of exceptions might afterwards be taken, if necessary, to the direction of the judge. This, however, the Court was fully prepared to say—in the case of a chartered ship, a shipper could not bring his action against the owner.

Mr. Justice BAWLEY's doubt was whether the defendants had not wilfully abstained from introducing words of demise into their agreement with Mr. Beecham—whether they were not in fact leading people to believe that they (and not the captain) were the liable parties.

London Police.

From the Times, November 2, 1821.

We stated yesterday an opinion, founded not merely on common reason, but on the published sentiments of well-informed persons who have had long experience in the administration of the London Police, that the efforts of that establishment ought to embrace the prevention of crimes, as well as the punishment of criminals. A pamphlet has been written on this subject by Mr. G. B. MAINWARING, a worthy Magistrate, of which we shall freely avail ourselves in discussing it, as the author shows a familiarity with important facts, which he places in a new light, and reasons upon them in a manner which, to us, appears unanswerable.

The police-officers at present direct their diligence to the punishment of offences already perpetrated. Hence all their zeal has, what is justly termed, but an *ex post facto* operation. If a purse be actually taken they can hunt down the thief, but let them know him with ever such certainty (and they do know all the rogues in London), they never think of watching him beforehand, with a view to keep the purse in the owner's pocket. So if a man be wounded or maltreated in such a manner that Lord ELLENBOROUGH's act can be brought into operation against the ruffians who attacked him, it is not difficult to rouse the myrmidons of justice in their pursuit; but is that any reasonable satisfaction to the sufferer for pain and danger, the loss of health, and the cost of restoring it? One cause of all this is quite notorious, viz.—that the officer is rewarded, not for preserving life or property, but for convicting murderers and robbers. The pay of the police-officer is miserably scanty, taking account of the risks which he is called upon to run, the fatigues he must undergo, and the numberless temptations which assail him. He has a fixed allowance of only one guinea per week. The police magistrate, who best knows his talents, courage, activity, and general usefulness, has no fund, out of which to make any discretionary additions to the above-mentioned penurious stipend, except in cases where the fund is inadequate to its legal object. The officer has no resource, therefore, beyond that pay, but in rewards from private persons who have already suffered injury by theft or violence, or in bribes from those by whom the wrong or outrage has been committed. Hence—and it is put with admirable force by the writer who has contributed much to draw our attention to this subject—"hence the commission of crimes becomes the pecuniary interest of the officer." What a system is this for the protection and safeguard of society! We have stated that the recompense yielded by the public is inadequate to the services which it professes to reward. On blood-money we shall not expatiate, or on its tendency, not alone to the encouragement by the officers of crimes of the most deadly kind, but to the fabrication, as is too well known, of false evidence against innocent persons, accused of capital felonies. We allude now to ordinary

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criminal cases. Out of the county stock, by order of the Court, a sum of money may be granted to the officer for his trouble in attending trials; but none for the time he may have consumed in preparing the means of detection, and the materials for successful prosecution, though months of industry and anxiety have often been so devoted. With respect to the nature and purposes of that remuneration which individuals who have been plundered or otherwise ill-treated bestow upon the officers whose assistance they require, the poor can afford but little to stimulate their zeal, and so far forth they have comparatively with the opulent a dreary chance of obtaining restitution. To have his property restored will be much more frequently the rich man's inclination than to have the plunderer punished; for this advantage to himself, but at the same time this fraud upon justice and on the public interest, will his liberality be extended to the police-officer; and thus an instrument of law be made effective only to purposes which the law repudiates. But this is not the worst. Small salaries, and such rewards as, when occasional, are either inadequate or of doubtful propriety, cannot be held out as inducements to men, respectable in station or character, to enter the service of the police. It follows, thence, that the persons who do become officers are often of a description more accessible than could be wished to corrupt motives for betraying the trust reposed in them. An ill-paid servant—it is human nature every where—an ill-paid servant is likely to be an unfaithful servant. How else can we explain the numberless instances of outrage and robbery, where the criminal escapes undiscovered? There are scarcely any cases on record, of large bribes not leading to the detection of guilt. Is it not quite as credible, therefore, that bribes are frequently the causes of concealment? This bribery has two modes of operation. It suffers the commission of crimes which ought to be prevented, and secures the escape of criminals who ought to be punished. To give to each of these its illustration, as our author expresses himself, we quote the following useful passages from his work:—

"Take the most extensive criminal operation of the present day, the forgery of the Bank of England notes. Capitalists and large manufacturers are engaged in their circulation; this paper-commodity is too tempting for human avidity to resist; and numbers seek it from the facility and rapidity with which it promises to realize a large profit. The traffic in forged notes must, from those causes, attract many traders, and become a most formidable encroachment on the circulation of the country. The sources of the circulation, *viz.* the manufacturers, should therefore be the primary objects of discovery and destruction; but may we not fear, as things are now circumstanced, that to the circulator, and not to the manufacturer, will the officers' vigilance be directed; because, if month after month, session after session, year after year, it be found that the irresistible propensity to the traffic more than keeps pace with its victims, and that in proportion to their increase, such is the increase of profit to those who discover them; must not such a result have a corrupting influence which no power is likely to subdue? Is it, then, improbable that they, who benefit by the workings of this system, should blind themselves to the means of detecting and destroying the sources of their own profit, and that they should also suffer the great channels, through which it flows, to continue their supply to the numerous minor branches which produce to them so rich a harvest? I may be told that the mischief is arrested as quickly as it can be discovered; but can it avail to cut off a few miserable abortions of this noxious race, while the parent stock is suffered to exist in full health, vigour, and fecundity; or should our thief-catchers (they must excuse me for the instant) act as our molecatchers are reported to do—always suffer a few good breeders to remain, in the certainty of being recalled at proper intervals to reap the benefit of their foresight and sagacity?

"Again, let us look at the more dexterous and daring class of predators, who have talent as well as money to contrive and execute their plans. It is known that such persons will almost exclusively devote themselves for months to the perpetration of a great robbery; for instance, that of stage-coaches and other conveyances carrying large sums of money: the plan of these persons being ultimately settled, a robbery of this sort is committed; may not here a prospective possibility of interest occur to the mind of an officer; for if any considerable part of the booty be undisposed of, will it not be the feeling and the interest of the sufferer as well as that of all parties, that the affair be compromised, that the sufferer shall save a great part rather than lose the whole; that the robber should restore a part and escape conviction, and that the officer shall be doubly rewarded for the success of his common agency? Is it the interest of officers, under our present system, to destroy altogether these bold, and possibly profitable contributors to their gains? Various are the cases of greater or less influence, to shew the indirect encouragement to crime to which I have adverted; but if our principle of policy apply to one, it must be applicable to all. The immediate direct influence must be more frequent than the former."

"Thieves, in their public haunts, are daily under the eyes of our officers; we know their manifold depredations, but how comparatively few are the apprehensions; and from the little pecuniary impulse to the proper discharge of an officer's duty, may not temptation here again induce him to the breach of it? If a valuable prize be the fruit of a successful and almost open robbery, is it impossible that interest may suggest a similar negotiation to that which I have recently described, and the abandonment and participation of the property upon the same principle of appropriation?"

Law Report.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1821.

SMITH V. HUNT.

This was an action brought by the plaintiff, a clergyman, who keeps a school in the vicinity of London, to recover £7. from the defendant, a lady generally residing in India, for the education and clothing of her two sons, during the time which the plaintiff contended, by the regulations of his school, he was entitled to charge. The principal question at issue between the parties was, whether Mrs. Hunt had given the quarter's notice of her intention to remove the children. She had, it seemed, given a notice to that effect when the children returned after the holidays; but it being delivered within the current quarter, the plaintiff insisted it did not comprehend the clear quarter's notice which he was entitled to receive.

After Mr. Sergeant Lens had opened his case for the plaintiff, and Mr. Sergeant Vaughan was heard for the defendant, Chief Justice Dallas inquired whether this cause could not as well be settled, by a reference to some gentleman at the bar. The learned Sergeants at both sides expressed their readiness to attend to his Lordship's suggestion; but Mr. Sergeant Lens said that as his client, the Rev. Mr. Smith, was in court, perhaps the learned Judge would repeat to him the same recommendation.

The CHIEF JUSTICE acceded to the request, and observed, that in a case of this kind it was always as well to see whether complete justice could not be done to the parties at issue by a reference of the matter in dispute to a respectable gentleman, who would decide at reason and justice required. In courts of justice properly and necessarily open to the public, matter often transpired, which going before people out of doors, might affect the feelings of private individuals in a manner that it would be as well perhaps often to avoid if the nature of the case admitted. In the present case the learned Judge said he was of opinion that it might be as well for the parties concerned to have the dispute between them settled by arbitration, as to have their differences disclosed before the public.

The Rev. Mr. SMITH said, that though his case was as clear as the sun at noon day, yet he had no objection to the reference. Still he must complain of the latitude taken by Mr. Sergeant Vaughan, in saying that the children were kept ragged in his school. He knew that counsel were in the habit of indulging in this sort of language, but he thought it highly reprehensible.

Chief Justice DALLAS said, that the language of counsel ought not to be too minutely criticised. He had said at the time the allusion was made to the clothing of the children, that the Jury ought not to notice it, as no complaint upon that subject had been transmitted to the school when the children returned.

Mr. Sergeant VAUGHAN said, that he only spoke from his instructions, and that they justified any expression he had made use of.

The Rev. Mr. SMITH replied, that then his instructions conveyed a gross falsehood, and that when again he indulged in such abuse, it would be well if he acquired the habit of doing so in the English language.

Chief Justice DALLAS here interposed, and said that the conduct of the plaintiff was as irregular as it was improper. "I do not," continued the Chief Justice, "mean to say what I should have said of parts of this case, had it gone to the jury: I should then have been bound to speak my opinion as I felt upon parts of that case. I must, however, express a hope that your conduct, Sir, in your school, in the presence of your pupils, is very different from that which you have personally exhibited in this court. Here it has been most improper; and it is due to Mr. Sergeant Vaughan to state, that his conduct has been, what it ought to be, proper, and conformable to his duty, acting upon his instructions."

The Rev. Mr. SMITH was again about to address the Court, but he was compelled to desist.

The Jury then found a verdict for the plaintiff, subject to a reference.

Edinburgh School of Arts.

The first Meeting of the Edinburgh School of Arts was held on Tuesday evening (Oct. 16) in Freemasons' Hall. Before half-past eight the room was completely filled, and some hundreds went away who could not procure admission. The objects of the Institution were explained by Mr. Leonard Horner, the Secretary, in a short but luminous address, of which our limits prevent us from attempting an outline. The School of Arts is constructed pretty much on the plan of Anderson's Institution in Glasgow, and like it, is intended chiefly to afford to operative tradesmen, and others who are engaged in busy life, instruction in the principles of science, especially in those branches which relate to the mechanic and useful arts. Two lectures are to be given weekly during the winter, on Tuesdays and Friday, at half-past 8 o'clock. The subjects for this year are Chemistry and Mechanics, a lecture on the former being delivered every Tuesday, and one on the latter every Friday. But in future seasons it is intended to give courses on Architecture and other subjects, not embraced in the present session. A library has also been provided, consisting of books of science only, which are to be lent out to the persons attending the lectures; and a room will be open, with fire and candle, for those who may find it more convenient to read there than at home. Philosophical apparatus will also be purchased, as the funds will admit. Each person who enters pays 15s. 6d., for which he has admission to both courses of lectures for the season, and the use of the library for one year. We understand that nearly 300 individuals have already taken out tickets, who are nearly all mechanics. Dr. Fyle's opening lecture seemed to be well adapted to the circumstances of his auditors, and, what is of no small importance in the case of a numerous and popular audience, it was very distinctly delivered. Judging from this specimen, we should think he will not disappoint the hopes of the Directors.

There are few institutions which, in our opinion, have stronger and more unequivocal titles to support than the Edinburgh School of Arts. It is much wanted; it will require no great funds for its support; and its tendency is in every point of view beneficial. Such an institution realizes the boasted good of Socrates; it brings down philosophy from the airy regions of speculation to guide the hand of industry in active life. Scientific principles and practical skill have hitherto been too much strangers; and the philosopher and the artist have moved generally in separate orbits, ignorant of the assistance they would mutually lend to one another. While our lawyers and divines spend their time in studying mechanics and chemistry, from which they reap no advantage, our artisans are left to grope their way in the dark, in total ignorance of the principles upon which the processes they are daily engaged in depend. Hence many imperfections adhere to most of the common arts; many false ideas prevail, which a little knowledge would remove; and, what is still worse, many improvements are prevented which would be speedily attained, were science and practical skill brought more freely into contact. An ignorant man, by the force of good habits, may be industrious; but it is a well-informed mind that inspires enterprise, and renders industry efficient. Ignorance is a prison-house to talent; knowledge liberates it, enlarges the individual's sphere of action; reclaims him from idleness and vice by opening new sources of enjoyment, and gives himself and society the full benefit of his labours. Many a mind that slumbers in indolence might be roused to exertion by imparting scientific instruction; and much exertion that is wasted on unprofitable or unattainable objects might by the same means be applied to beneficial purposes. Nine-tenths of the mechanical projects which figure every year in our newspapers are instances of misapplied ingenuity—delusions springing out of a total ignorance of the first principles of mechanics and chemistry. To turn this fund of activity to useful ends is patriotic and praiseworthy. Let an individual who falls in with a young man of an inquisitive and ingenious disposition, but in poor circumstances, give him a ticket to attend the School of Arts. There are few ways in which so small a sum may produce so much good. No service we can render to another is of so much value as that of supplying him with knowledge, which enables him to serve himself. We sincerely wish that the institution may find ample support; and we consider the best thanks, not only of the operative mechanics, but of the whole population of Edinburgh, due to the Directors, and especially to Mr. Leonard Horner, for his unwearied exertions in setting the establishment on foot.—*Scotsman.*

EUROPE DEATAS.

On Thursday, the 24th of October, at Putney, Tyson Chapman, Esq., aged 77.

On Sunday, the 28th of October, at Belle Vue, Brixton, Surrey, in the 27th year of his age, Richard, the youngest son of Samuel Wilde, Esq., of New Palace-yard, Westminster.

On the 31st of October, at his house, in Charterhouse-square, Alexander Gordon, Esq., in the 80th year of his age.

On the Greek Insurrection.

—Oh!—populous the desert grows,
Where Freedom's martyr'd sons repose;
—Supreme inspirer!—she it was,
Who thronged, Thermopylae! thy Pass,
And o'er thee her own harvest spread
Of beauteous, ever-blooming dead!
—What tho' the brav'd Invaders might
Bedim the Sun, with arrow-flight,
—What tho', with helm and harness rent,
Her votaries strive with myriads pent?
—Oh!—brighter, thro' the cloven creat,
Bursts from its prisonment of earth,
The smother'd flame of Freedom forth,
—Gratefulllest render'd to the skies,
Thro' radiant stream of sacrifice!
—Protectress!—she it was who kneeled,
A suppliant, on that crimson'd field,
Where patriots sunk, but might not yield!
When Fate relenting, bade console;
The prostrate but unfetter'd Pole.
—What tho' the dungeon's triple bars
Were closed upon him, ere his scars?
And with the captive and the slain
Freedom alone maintained her reign?
His breast became a place divine,
Wherein she dwelt as in her shrine;
—His dungeon was a temple bright,
All radiant with its treasur'd light;
—A focus of concentrated rays,
Too blinding bright for mortal gaze,
—Till pour'd the never-dwindling beam
Once more abroad, in healthful stream.
—Lo! Saragossa!—Glorious tomb
O'erwin'd with wreaths of deathless bloom;
In whose rich shade the living walk,
And collar're buds from Memory's stalk;
—What though her wall seem'd crouching low,
As cowering to presumptuous foe;
Nor stratagem, nor vaunt of war,
Avail'd her leagur'd gates to bar;
—Yet might not freedom's spirit part,
Trench'd in her firmer hold—the heart!
Till Pestilence from Hades rose;
To barb the shafts of mortal foes!
—No!—never breath'd be the lament
That Freedom's energies are spent;
—Assert it not, when Faction quails,
That Freedom's soul-lit beacon pales;
Or that her summons, feebler blown,
Thills with a less inspiring tone.

* The report made of the Persian numbers by a Trachinian, at Thermopylae.—*Heredot. B. 7. C. 226.*

† At Matschewitz. "Six mille polonais demeurèrent sur le champ de bataille. Il ne se saura que 1500."—*Nouv. Dict. Hist. des Batt. fam.*

After Marathon, no field appears to have better deserved to have been won, than that which Kosciusko lost.

After Kosciusko. "Il aurait été insuffisamment tué par les cosaques, s'ils n'avaient été retenus par un de leurs officiers."

"On le transports dans un couvent voisin, et de là, il fut conduit dans un cachot de St. Petersbourg."—*Ibid. T. 4.*

He was released from prison on the death of the Empress Catherine, and suffered to depart for America.

§ The wall of Saragossa could scarcely be termed a defence.

"From an enumeration made at the commencement and at the termination of this extraordinary and terrible siege, it has been ascertained, that in fifty-two days 54,000 individuals perished; being two-thirds of the military, and the half of the inhabitants or refugees."—*Jones's War in Spain C. 2.*

|| The heaps of unburied dead spread contagion among the besieged, and wrought more fatally than the sword.—*Ibid.*

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—635—

Open Drains.

SIR, — *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

In returning home the other evening from my ride, my Horse (a valuable Arab) took fright and fell into one of the Open Drains at the side of the street, which was so narrow and deep, that it required the assistance of nearly two hundred people to lift him out (which was effected by lashing his legs together and passing a bamboo under the rope.) The Horse inseverely injured, his legs being cut and bruised in several places.

Query.—Why should such nuisances remain, when the expense of a few hundred rupees would enable the Lottery Committee to cover, or arch in, every Drain in the Town of Calcutta, similar to what is done in the Towns of England.

Calcutta, April 27, 1822. — **AN ENGLISHMAN.**

Accurate Observers.

SIR, — *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

I beg leave, through the medium of your JOURNAL, to congratulate the Calcutta community on their possessing such able Astronomers as those who made the observations, published in the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE on the 25th instant, and the world at large on the important results to be deduced therefrom.

Supposing that the motions of the planet Venus, to be deduced from the data in the Nautical Almanac relating thereto, would be tolerably correct,—I ventured to calculate her quantity of motion in the time specified in the Paper, from motives of curiosity, to see how far the Tables would agree with such accurate observations.

But what was my astonishment, Mr. Editor, on finding that my calculations not only gave a very different numerical result from the observations, but that Venus was receding from instead of approaching towards the Sun.

I carefully examined and re-examined my calculations; I searched in the Nautical Almanac for Errata, but could find nothing that would account for the difference. I consulted every Table of that Planet's motions that I could come at, but met the same result.

I conclude, therefore, that the Planet Venus has altogether changed her rate of motion, since the accuracy of our Calcutta Astronomers admits of no question, especially as the mode of observing was not only unprecedented, but one which, I am afraid, the ignorant prejudices of former times will for some time prevent the repetition of, unless by those Gentlemen who have been so fortunate as to discover it, though time and perseverance no doubt will at last convince the world of its excellence.

I cannot but be of opinion, however, that the discoverer of the ingenious and simple mode of seeing Satellites by a common Shaving Glass, even where none are to be discovered by our most powerful Telescopes, must be among the able Astronomers whose observations were so pompously put forth in the "Gazette By Authority" and the "Demi-Official Print" in the same language and on the same day; and that he suggested these accurate means of correcting our Astronomical Tables, for this reason that it is rare to see two such powerful minds in so small a community, contemporary with each other.

I have no doubt that while the Planet Venus can be so readily observed, every opportunity will be taken to increase the number of those observations; and I think it of great importance that they should be communicated to the Royal Astronomer with all speed, to enable him to correct his future Almanacs.

To conclude, the important results of these simple observations furnish a convincing argument in favor of the Observatory of COPERNICUS; since, if so much can be done with a reflecting circle of 10 inches diameter, what may not be expected from a Transit Instrument of ten feet focal length? &c. &c.

Anxiously awaiting the information which such an Establishment must afford,—I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,

April 27, 1822.

CURIOSO.

P. S.—The 23d of April was full of wonders; had they happened on the first of the month, they might have been less surprising.

Enigma.

SIR, — *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

I have the pleasure to send you a Solution of QUIN's Enigma which appeared in your JOURNAL of the 25th instant. I sent a Solution to QUIN's first Enigma on a Flambeaux, but it has not as yet as yet appeared.—Yours's obediently,
Calcutta, April 26, 1822.

VORTEX.

A chump is sure a log of wood,
Which always makes a bonfire good;
Cut off my head,—a chump is left,
Of which I'd rather be bereft.
Now dock my tail,—you'll plainly see,
The music of the lab'ring bee,
Restore my crown, and I become
A right good merry pleasant chum.

Conviction.

SIR, — *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

If a man be not demented, and if candour form a part of his mental compost, it will always be out of his power to resist the force of reason and sound argument. My compliments, therefore, to ROUAR CROIX, of whom I request that he will tell the LOVER OF JUSTICE, when he sees him next (and that will be, I believe, the next time he looks into his own PLAIN MIRROR) that I am now convinced, though

"—— against my will,

And of the same opinion still,"

and do succumb to the decisions of their more enlightened judgments.

I had forgotten the precedents which have been adduced, and am reduced to the necessity of concurring in the DEXTERIAN dogma, which was casuistically established in days gone by, that, "a black fellow is no better than a monkey, and that to hang any European for killing a thing of that kind, would be downright murder."

If this be true of any European, how much more so, *a fortiori*, of one whose "noble heart beats beneath a star, or a robe or furred gown"—or, as the LOVER has it, "an Englishman of high rank, and of high and unimpeachable character!"

Your's truly,

Celingah, April 27, 1822. — **UNDER THE ROSE.**
Astronomers.

SIR, — *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

What a fury about seeing a Star in the daylight! It surprises me that our Calcutta Astronomers should deduce such great advantages from it. I remember my old Grandmother (who was a bit of an Astronomer) pointed out Venus to me many years ago, and spoke of it as by no means a rare occurrence.

When I read the article in your Paper to-day, from the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, and found so much importance attached to such an occurrence in this place, I conceived my memory deceived me; and as the old Lady has long since bid adieu to the Terrestrial Globe, I consulted a volume beside me, and found that in page 497 of the Edinburgh Encyclopædia, under the article Circle, in a quotation from Dr. Wollaston's Faciculus, the following words: "The Pole Star, or any Star of the first or second magnitude, may be seen in the day time with the Telescope of this Circle, having a power of 60;" speaking of Troughton's portable Altitude and Azimuth Circle.

I am no Astronomer myself, and therefore cannot immediately perceive, like our Calcutta Astronomers, the vast importance to Astronomy of such a new discovery; but I have no doubt the Astronomer Royal will duly appreciate the "vast importance" of their observations, and the active intelligence which could so quickly seize upon so rare an occurrence.

In the mean time, COPERNICUS, as his representative, will give them due praise for their labours.—Yours's, &c.

Calcutta, April 26, 1822.

NO ASTRONOMER,

Signs of the Times.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

In your Paper of yesterday, I see that you take notice of some ravenous Bird or other having got itself impaled upon the Safety Rod of the Scotch Kirk; and I could not help admiring your ingenuity in deriving, from a circumstance of that kind, such favorable omens of the prosperity of that establishment in India.

I am, however, sorry to say, "tis but a flattering tale:" we are at this moment on the very brink of ruin; the heavens are in confusion, and the stars not only shine at noon-day, but run back in their orbits.

You will no doubt have heard from the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE of yesterday, that the most correct observations have been made of the distance of Venus from the Sun, as well as the rate at which she is approaching that luminary. "They were made with a Troughton's Reflecting Circle, the most complete instrument for an observation of that kind;" so that the most perfect reliance may be placed upon the observation.

The Planet in question, was at her inferior conjunction on the 9th of March, and will not reach her greatest elongation till the 19th of May or thereabouts; so that, if there were any hopes of the world's going on in the old way she must have been receding from the sun. But, as I said before, all things are going wrong; even the Astronomical Clock in the Surveyor General's Office never goes at the same rate for two minutes together, but to use the expression of the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, "goes with undeviating irregularity."

I am, Sir, in great trepidation at the approaching catastrophes.

Your most obedient,

April 26, 1822.]

DICK DOLEFULL.

More Notes.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

It has long been matter of regret, that while the Natives of this country calculate Solar Eclipses with some degree of accuracy, our Calcutta Almanacks, in general, contain nothing but gross nonsense on the subject. But what will those of the Natives, who know any thing of Astronomy, say of us now! should they see published, in the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, that on the 23d of April it was ascertained, by "very correct distances, taken with the most perfect instrument for an observation of this kind" that Venus was approaching the sun at the rate of 27 seconds in 16 minutes of time?

The fact is, that Venus reached her inferior conjunction on the 9th of March last, and will continue to recede from the Sun till the 19th of May, when she will have reached her greatest elongation. Whoever will take the trouble to consult the last column of page 4 of the Astronomical Ephemeris for this month, will readily perceive that Venus receded from the Sun during the last six days, seven minutes of time; which gives thirteen seconds of motion receding from the sun, in 16 minutes of time, instead of twenty-seven approaching towards the Sun.

I am well aware, that the rate of motion stated by me is not strictly accurate; but it differs so little from the truth, that it will be difficult (if not impossible) to discover the difference in 16 minutes of time, by a Reflecting Circle: nicer calculations are therefore quite unnecessary upon the present occasion.

I presume, enough has already been said, to shew the utter uselessness of the observations above alluded to, and the absurdity of the idea that they could furnish data for the correction of our Astronomical Tables.

I perfectly agree with those who are inclined to believe, that since the invention of reflecting instruments, they have, perhaps, never been used to measure the distance of the Sun from any Planet, or Star; and I must beg to add that it could hardly have been anticipated, *a priori*, that they would ever be applied to such a purpose, with a view to correcting our Astronomical Tables.—I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

H. April 26, 1822.

A STAR-GAZER.

Native Newspapers.

TRANSLATIONS FROM THE JAM-I JUHAN NOOMA.

For the Calcutta Journal.

Lucknow.—I received a letter some days ago mentioning the revolt of a Zemindar of Auckburpoor, (in the vicinity of Lucknow.) He was a dependent of the noble and generous Nabob of Lucknow. Mutomet Dowlah, the Vizier and Deputy of the Nabob, hearing of his disobedience, dispatched a Force to reduce him to subjection, whereupon the Zemindar prepared to resist, and a bloody conflict ensued, which terminated in the repulse of the Nabob's Forces.

Major R—— who had the charge of the Honorable Company's Forges in that part of the country, marched against the Zemindar, arrived there on the 9th of February, and pitched his tents near the Fort of Auckburpoor.

The Major first advised him to surrender, as he had acted with much impropriety; however the obstinate Zemindar not only refused to come to a peaceful arrangement, but presumed even to discharge several shots against him from the Fort. Seeing this, the Major commenced an action, which was kept up till twelve o'clock at night, when the Zemindar being unable to resist any longer, forsook the Fort, setting fire to the place; so Major R—— took possession of it.

Ranjeet Sing.—Ranjeet Sing, King of Lahore and the parts adjacent to it, having conquered Cusheer, Moultan, and Attock, has now turned his attention entirely to bringing Ghorbea under his authority. It is true that, at present, no Chief of Hindooostan administers justice in such a manner, or has so great a desire for promoting the welfare of his subjects, as Ranjeet Sing.

Copy of a Proposal made to the Inhabitants of Shahjehanabad.

A Military Officer, in the service of the East India Company, who visited the city of Shahjehanabad, had endeavoured to institute a college there, for the purpose of teaching English and other languages to the Natives; but fearing that a difference of religion would produce some disagreeable consequences, he gave up the attempt. The following is the copy of a proposal he made to the Natives:—

"I most respectfully beg leave to inform the people of rank, the merchants, and other inhabitants of the capital city of Shahjehanabad and its environs, that on account of the various institutions established in the different countries of Bengal, Orissa, Chittagong, and the Sooah of Behar, many persons, having been enlightened with the ray of instruction and knowledge, have abstained themselves from indulging in vicious pursuits, and consequently have been delivered from their dangerous consequences. Whereas the people of this city, being poor, the Lamp of the Arts and Sciences has been extinguished; and from the want of books, its inhabitants cannot learn so much as they should know; and for want of colleges, they spend their time in vanity. I wish that the rich Natives of this city, like those of Bengal, collecting a sum by subscription, would establish such an Institution, and that according to their respective circumstances each would give something to defray its expences, monthly, annually, or half yearly. Then the generality of the people, whether Hindoo or Moosulman, who do not possess that great treasure, learning, by receiving instruction in that college, and being adorned with such bright ornaments, as those of possessing a knowledge of the English, Persian, Sanscrit, and Bhasha languages, and of Medicine and Astronomy,—would become respected by their countrymen for their virtues; their vulgarity and ignorance would be converted into learning and knowledge; and afterwards they would do all in their power to contribute to the education and good of their countrymen. By their enterprising spirit, the Tree of Hope, which is full of goodly blossoms, would continually produce excellent fruits.

"In carrying this into execution, two learned persons, well qualified to teach, who know various sciences, and understand the plan of colleges, having resided sometime in Calcutta, and there acquired learning, have now come into this city, with books and plans of education, according to those of Europe, and are now become teachers of the Persian and Hindooostan languages. If any one wishes to see the abovementioned plans, and to instruct his children accordingly, he may have an inspection of them and bring his children into this garden of science for their education. By the Divine assistance, and their own exertions, it is probable that they will soon learn as much in six months, or even less, as is commonly acquired in one year. Many works, written on various subjects, such as Chronology and History, on the improvement of the understanding, Geography, Astronomy, &c. which will greatly tend to increase the knowledge and morality of the people, are now deposited in that College. Some few days ago, instructions were sent to the Sudder of Calcutta, to send an English teacher, who will begin to teach that language as soon as he arrives.

"Whereas this College is to be founded on benevolence, it will be necessary for the rich, the great, and the merchants of this place, to collect a sum, by subscribing something each, according to his circumstances, and send over to the said teacher, so that he may be enabled to commence his labours.

stances, for supporting and encouraging it; from the interest of which sum, its expences will be carried on, so that it may be permanent. The names of its managers will be printed in the English Newspapers, for the information of the Europeans employed in Hindooostan; and of the East India Company. As they will be sent to Europe also, many of those gentlemen hearing this, will, it is hoped, endeavour to promote its interest. He who may have any desire of acquiring worldly fame, and future bliss, by patronizing this pious undertaking, will subscribe his name in one of the columns of this proposal, and also the amount he may be able to give.

"Six learned and respectable persons composed of Europeans, Hindoos, and Moosulmans, will be appointed to make regulations, arrangements, &c. for the college; who, after consulting together, will do as they think best. The books already come from Calcutta, have been given to the scholars to read; and those that are to come will be distributed hereafter, from which they will derive great advantage. No interference of any kind, is or will be made with religion, every one being allowed to follow his own tenets. This College is to be instituted in the School of Rowshun-ood-Dowlah, near Cutwalee, Chobooter, for no other intention but that of enlightening the natives, for their present good and future happiness."

Odes of Hafiz.

The Editor of the MIRAT-OOL-UKHRAH has inserted the following, apparently in reply to the objections of a certain learned Critic, who seemed to think English Translations altogether superfluous.—TRANSLATOR.

The object of publishing the Ode of Mohammed Hafiz together with an English translation, was that the European Gentlemen who accuse Moosulmans of religious intolerance and the excessive rigor of their laws, might know that in the centre of Moosulman countries, Hafiz, the author of these Odes, notwithstanding his promulgating deistical verses, full of Sufieism, which is directly contrary to their religious tenets, had never been persecuted or molested by Moosulmans or by Moosulman Magistrates.

English Nation.

Although in ascertaining the particular causes of different natural phenomena, and in investigating the specific connection between objects, which justifies men in calling one a cause, and the other an effect, there is great liability to error; yet, as human perfection and social improvement depend on *a posteriori* reasoning, mankind cannot dispense with it while seeking the good things of this world and the blessings of futurity. On this account, he that is possessed of rational faculties and is desirous of improving himself by experience, cannot neglect enquiring into the particular cause of the present greatness of the English Nation, notwithstanding the comparative smallness of the population, and the very limited extent of their Native country—so that Kings and Emperors of great power are anxious to secure their friendship.

Can we attribute their glory to the nature of their climate, or to their physical strength, or to their personal courage? Certainly not—On mature consideration, none of these things can be supposed adequate to account for it: since the country is an island of Europe in size only equal to a small portion of India; and in consequence of the frequent falls of rain and snow, the crops are obtained with difficulty at great expence and labour; and the inhabitants of other countries such as Germany and Russia, consider themselves equal to them in strength and courage; and the people of France do not allow them any superiority to themselves in the Art of War; nor did the Dutch confess themselves to be excelled by them in Naval Tactics.

Again, the peculiar situation of England, which renders its invasion difficult, cannot be supposed to be the sole cause of its daily accessions of power and glory; since in this respect all other islands possess the same advantages with England. Besides, we do not find any change to have taken place in its present and its ancient local position, and its necessary consequences; yet it was conquered in former days by other nations, even by a Chief of a single province of France.

After the deethronement of Charles I. and James II. who neglected the rights of their subjects, and since the Constitution has been matured and firmly established on its present basis, so well calculated to preserve the dignity and power of the King, without any encroachment upon the rights of the subjects, (viz. a monarchical government limited by the national voice, and which I will afterwards particularly describe) the power of the nation has gradually increased. Moreover, the local position of the country (which is inaccessible except by sea), and the union of the neighbouring kingdom of Scotland with England, have contributed to the successful operation of that constitution; as it is well-known to all reflecting men that the extent of territories remotely situated, and the separation of states naturally united, equally contribute to the weakness of empires.—If it please God, I will give an account of the English Constitution in the succeeding Numbers.—MIRAT-OOL-UKHRAH.

Selections.

Affairs of Oude.—We received several Letters yesterday on the affairs of Oude, which contain matter that we cannot with propriety publish. The writers animadvert, in rather strong language, on some of the statements that have appeared in our Paper on that subject, and request us either to publish their Letters in reply, or the substance of them. We shall adopt the latter method, as less objectionable, and being of opinion it will fully answer the object the writers have in view. In the first place they assert, that almost all the statements that have appeared in the public papers, regarding the Police, the Government, and the affairs of Oude, are erroneous, and they seem to think that those statements must have been drawn up from mere hearsay. With respect to the Police of Oude, they maintain that it is very much improved of late years. Guards, they say, are now stationed on the banks of the Goomptee, from Jnampore to Lucknow, and Boats can pass with perfect safety, and without being in the smallest degree molested. The protection thus afforded, is represented to be equal to any arrangement of the kind within the Company's Provinces. Our Correspondents do not pretend to deny, that some Gentlemen, travelling by Dawk in Oude, have been attacked and plundered, when proceeding without an escort, but they are confident, that few instances of the kind have occurred within their recollection, and none of them attended with any serious consequence, except the attack made, many years ago, on Mr. Metcalf and Lieutenant Oldjoe, who were both severely wounded in attempting to defend themselves. But instances of the same kind, they say, have frequently occurred within the Company's Provinces, particularly in the neighbourhood of Cawnpore. The great number of Gentlemen who were plundered within 10, 15, and 20 miles of that station, in the years 1804 and 5, when proceeding by Dawk, to join the Army, must be fresh, they say, in the recollection of every person who resided at or near the place at that time, and many instances of the same kind have occurred within the last five years, in the neighbourhood of Meerut, Muttra, Agra, and Delhi. Robberies, indeed of a more daring nature, have occurred in these parts, than any that have taken place in Oude. Besides, his Majesty of Oude has, on all occasions, met the wishes of the Government, in using his best efforts to seize all offenders who had at any time taken refuge in his country, and that being the case, our Correspondents do not see, they say, what just cause there is for loading the Police of Oude with so much censure. They seem to think that some of the robberies lately committed in Calcutta were as bad as any thing of the kind ever heard of in any part of India.

With regard to the government of Oude, it continues, they say, to be conducted in the same manner it has been for the last fifty years, and his Majesty has neither spared trouble or expence to procure the ablest and best informed men to preside in those Courts, all of whom enjoy liberal salaries, have every respect and attention paid to them, and have every inducement held out to them, to act an upright and honourable part in the performance of the duties assigned to them. The Minister who held the highest situation in the different Courts at Lucknow, formerly held similar situations in the Company's Service, and from what our Correspondents have heard of their general character, are most highly deserving the trust reposed in them.

With regard to the attacks lately made on the character of the Minister, by people who have written on the affairs of Oude, our Correspondents seemed to think that it was very natural, and not more than what might have been expected, and had the writers in the Public Papers confined their statements to matters of fact, no objection whatever, they say, could have been made to them:—it is a liberty taken, as they acknowledge, with every public man, in a similar situation, in every part of the world; but they affirm, that what is said of his being a common Kidmutgar is false, as it can be proved on the very best authority, that he always held a respectable situation in his Majesty's Service; and he is considered, and has always been considered, as a man of very respectable abilities. For some years prior to the death of the late Vizier, he was Private Tutor and Companion to the young Prince, in which situation he gave the highest satisfaction, and as a reward for his good conduct, and faithful services, His present Majesty, soon after he ascended the throne, conferred upon him the situation he now holds, which however is not that of Minister, for the Heir Apparent is the Minister, and Nawab Muatnumud ood Dowlah is his Deputy. They were both invested in presence of the Governor General of India, when at Lucknow in 1814.

From the numerous Letters that have lately appeared on this subject, our Correspondents naturally enough infer, that the Minister has many enemies; and so (as they very justly remark,) will every one have that holds the situation of Minister at any Court, whatever his conduct may be, for it is next to impossible that he can please all. That he is a favorite with the King, and possesses a considerable share of influence, is unquestionable; but it is equally certain, our Correspondents assert, that His Majesty is not entirely guided by his advice and council, and that on the contrary he acts in many cases in direct opposition to the will of the Minister.

The above is the substance of the communications sent us for publication, and we trust our Correspondents will not be offended with us for submitting it in its present abridged form. The parts we have omitted, relate to matters that we consider unfit for newspaper discussion.

Bhawnpore.—Extract of a Letter from Bhawnpore, April 21, 1822.—We were visited by a most tremendous hail storm, from the N. W. yesterday evening, about half past 5 o'clock, attended by thunder. Many trees have been rooted out, and those standing have been deprived of the greater part of their branches, leaves and fruit. The whole country presents the appearance of a Europe winter. Such was the tremendous force of the storm which lasted about ten minutes, that doors and windows were forced open and the rooms filled with hailstones, so as completely to cover the floors. The ground was covered, at least 6 inches deep with the hail; a good deal of which remained where it had drifted, this morning at sunrise. The hailstones were not remarkable for their size. The greater part of the temporary verandahs attached to gentlemen's houses, have been carried away, and in the Bazaars and Lines, scarce a hut remains with its roof standing. I have only heard of one Native having lost his life, but many are hurt from the falling of houses and trees. The like has never been seen by the oldest inhabitants of Palibothra.—John Bull.

Roads and Bridges.

To the Editor of John Bull.

SIR,

The notice which appeared in your paper yesterday, respecting the erection of two Bridges over the Hindoo and Kankee rivers, in the upper Doab, affords fresh proof of the interest with which the present Government of India is disposed to promote works of acknowledged public utility.

It is only of late years, that we can be said to have made any efforts to disprove the well known reproach cast upon our Indian Empire by Edmond Burke;—but altho' no period preceding the administration of our present ruler, has been so fruitful in the institution of public Establishments—this may rather be imputed to the turbulence of times which diverted the attention of former Governments from pacific cares, than to any disregard or suppression of those feelings of national pride to which perhaps mankind is chiefly indebted for the execution and completion of such designs. This country may now be considered as advanced from infancy to a state of maturity, no longer exposed to those vicissitudes which render that stage in the age of nations as well as man, of all others the most precarious and most beset with dangers. We have fought the good fight, and surmounting every obstacle, every struggle to the progress of our arms, have acquired a dominion in this remote quarter of the world, in extent, in splendour, and importance, even Rome herself, in her proudest days, never surpassed. The peace which reigns throughout India, has been established on principles too solid and permanent to be liable to any early interruption, and it must be gratifying to the subjects, to find that the Government are solicitous to embrace a juncture so favorable for conferring on them benefits so highly calculated as the construction of Roads, and Bridges are, to promote their commercial and agricultural occupations.

No argument is necessary to prove that nothing is more conducive to the prospect of such pursuits than a free and easy communication between the principal cities and towns, whence the mercantile productions of a country are known to flow, and it would be absurd to mention the advantage which would arise to the State, in the increase of Revenue, which improved means of commercial intercourse would yield, exclusive of other considerations not less important in a public sense, and which are almost too obvious to require allusion—I mean the facilities which these public works would offer to Military Operations. A connexion would be formed between the most distant stations, and places which have hitherto been inaccessible, excepting at certain seasons of the year, would no longer oppose a barrier to our troops, or a forlorn hope to the enterprise of commercial speculators, the population of the country would be more equally diffused, and isolated wastes which have remained unvisited from the want of internal communications, would, in the course of a short time, present the picture of busy life.

The Roads which are now constructing between Midnapore and Nagpore, the latter city and Cawnpore, and from Agra to our several positions in Malwa and Rajpootana, are works of real utility and benefit, and when completed will open a line of communication between the extreme points of our old and new territories, that cannot fail to produce the most advantageous consequences to our foreign as well as to our domestic relations.

It has long been a subject of public regret that some plan has not been adopted to facilitate the progress of travellers on the New Road to Benares, which should avoid at once the expence of the Dawk and the inconveniences and delay of marching. To remedy this evil, several suggestions have been made, and the subject is said to have occupied the attention of Government.

None seems, in my opinion, better calculated to insure the desired object, than placing at every 20 miles of the whole distance an establishment for the purpose of providing Travellers with ready means of procuring refreshment and accommodation. The best method of effecting this, would be, I think, to appoint to each stage or Post House, a non-commissioned Officer, from the Invalid Establishment, who should be selected for the situation, for his trustworthy character, and good conduct, and as an incentive to emulation, a small salary of 20 or 30 Rupees per mensem might be granted to him, in addition to his other allowances, that it might hold out to persons in his situation, the idea of a reward of past services.

The expence I have stated would be all I conceive that the Government would be obliged to sustain—unless it should be found necessary in the first instance to make an advance of 100 or 200 Rupees to each Superintendent, to enable him to erect an habitation for the accommodation of himself and Travellers.

The liberal contributions of the latter would no doubt very shortly, render the Superintendent capable of enlarging and extending his arrangements for the comfort and convenience of his visitors.—The New Road may be said to be the key to the Upper Provinces—and when we reflect on the facility which a plan similar to the one in question would insure to those to whom an expedited mode of Travelling was of importance, but whose means did not enable them to resort to the Dawk, it is surely an object justly deserving the consideration of a Government so alive as this to the interests of its subjects.—During the Campaigns of Lord Lake, it may be remembered, that in consequence of the scarcity of Officers which existed at that time, Government found it necessary to transport every newly imported Cadet by Dawk at the public charge to join the Army.

The same necessity might again happen, and it is a question whether the expence which attended that measure would not have been more ample to establish the plan I have suggested.

Hereafter I will endeavour to digest and arrange in a more intelligible form what I must beg the reader to consider as only crude and hasty remarks. As not wholly unconnected with the subject, I will, also at a future time offer some observations on the expediency of adopting some means of rescuing, from their present burial place, the disjointed materials of the Iron Bridge at Luenow—the fate of which must be a just source of regret to all those who are acquainted with the devotion of its Princely Projector* to public works and edifices. A devotion that would have done honour to more illustrious Sovereigns.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

* SAADUT ALI.

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
April 20	Charles Mills	British	G. Wise	Isle of France

Stations of Vessels in the River.

APRIL 26, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—ST. THIAGO MAJOR (P.)—LADY FLORA, —NERBUDDA.—LORD HUNTERFORD, —VALLETTA,—MARCHIONESS OF HASTINGS,—JOHN BARRY and HARRIET, outward-bound, remain,—DUNVEGAN CASTLE, passed up.

Saugor.—GANGES, LADY NUGENT, PENELOPE (F.) and ESPERANÇA (P.) below Saugor, outward-bound, remain.

The NERBUDDA arrived off Calcutta on Saturday morning.

Report from the Ship JANET HUTTON, Captain Thomas Howard, from Singapore the 23d of March.

On the 6th of April, off Acheen Head, the JANET HUTTON spoke the Ship ZENOBIA, Captain Libon, from South America, in January, for Calcutta.

The SUSAN had arrived at Singapore on the 20th of March from China, whence she sailed on the 10th of that month.

Erratum.

In the Letter of Roger Crox, in the JOURNAL of Saturday, last line but one, for "COMMON LAW," read "CANCER LAW."

On the 25th of October, at Woolmer's Herts, the seat of the Right Honorable Sir GORE OUSELEY, Bart. Lady OUSELEY, of a still-born son.